

the total number and a historical summary of insolvencies recognised by our Courts for the last 10 years?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—

<i>Year</i>	<i>No.</i>
1098 ..	60
1099 ..	69
1100 ..	78
1101 ..	85
1102	91
1103 ..	82
1104 ..	83
1105 ..	77
1106 ..	99
1107 ..	90

The latter part of the question is not quite clear.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to state why a non-clear question was allowed at all?

President.—The Government do not allow it; but the President allowed it.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have noted that the rising figures show the rising acute economic depression prevailing in the State?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It is in the answer.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to state how they intend to counteract the economic depression as evidenced by the answer?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Government is not in a position to give a definite answer with respect to that. They must take time to consider that question.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What about the historical summary of insolvencies by our Courts?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Government have replied that the latter part of the question is difficult to understand.

Pension to Dr. Verghese.

64. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the pension due to Dr. Verghese, the late Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, has been commuted into a lump sum payment;

(b) if so, how much amount was paid;

(c) and under what rule was it done;

(d) will a copy of his petition for this be placed on the table of the House?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—(a) One half of the pension due to Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese, retired Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, was commuted into a lump sum payment.

(b) Rs. 5,000.

(c) As a special case.

(d) A copy of the petition is appended. (*Appendix III*).

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know the special reason for taking this as a special case? Was it for any meritorious service done to the State?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—This was not done under the ordinary rules of the Cochin Service Regulation. As a special case is meant, that it is not given under the ordinary rules.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Was this a condition at the time of his appointment or was it found out later on?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—Yes. It was not finally settled at the time of his appointment.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The consideration took place after his retirement?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—The statement here, in Appendix III, printed in the answer is to the effect:—"I had originally made this request on entering service and was made to understand that it would be favourably considered". Are there any written communications addressed to him?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Are we to understand that he had been told that his request will be favourably considered at the time of his retirement?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—I do not know.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—What was the total pension allowed to him per mensem?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—Rs. 140.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Was only half of that commuted?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—Yes.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—May I know whether the Government have any idea to alter the rules?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—Not at present.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Is there any other similar instance where a portion has been commuted as in the present case?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—No

Dr. A. R. Menon.—May I know why this was made in the case of a very well-to-do officer, when more deserving and distressing hands are refused the same? We would like to know the reason why this was treated as a special case. Is it because of the meritorious service rendered by him during a short period of five years or is it because he is in such a distressing condition?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—It formed a part of the covenant when he entered into the State service. That request was pending consideration at the time of retirement. The question was considered and it was finally decided that it should be considered in his favour.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—May I know why it was favourably considered?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—For services rendered by him.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to say what sterling services were rendered by him to the State as to give him a special pension? What was the signal service rendered by this gentleman that the Government should make a departure from the existing rules in this particular case?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—I do not think the question arises. It formed part of the covenant before he entered service.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Our point is whether that covenant was entered into at the time of his appointment.

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—It was pending consideration.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Up to the time of his retirement?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—What was the position of the Government? Was it that the request would be considered favourably or unfavourably? What were the meritorious services rendered by him to consider his case favourably? It cannot form part of the covenant.

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—Evidently, when it was considered there were certain outstanding points on which a favourable consideration was based.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know what these outstanding points are?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—There are various factors which went to prove this but I can't say now what they are.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, should not the people know the meritorious services rendered by an officer when he is singled

out for this special privilege? We are asking a simple question. What is the signal service rendered by the aforesaid gentleman?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—They were not recorded.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—May I know the method of calculation?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—It was based upon British Indian Rules.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Is there any record to show that he made such a request and that he was made to understand that it would be considered favourably?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—I think the appendix shows that. Evidently there must have been. But they are confidential. I want notice to say more.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—On a point of order, Sir. How is it confidential? How can the terms of entertaining an officer be confidential? The Hon'ble Member is not the man to say that it is confidential? I want a ruling from the Chair. The Hon'ble Member should not decide the point.

President.—He said he wanted notice.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Then it is alright. I say it cannot be treated as confidential.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know whether there are rules in our enactments for commuting pension?

President.—He has answered the question once. He said no.

T. A. Diwan's Confidential Clerk.

65. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) under what class was the Confidential Clerk of the Diwan placed for the purpose of T. A. under the recent rules issued by Government ;

(2) was there any change with regard to him afterwards ;

(3) if so, what is the change ;

(4) what will be the T. A. due to him under the original rules when he accompanied the Diwan to Simla ;

(5) how much was actually paid ;

(6) why was the excess amount paid;

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(1) Fifth class.

(2) and (3) Yes ; change in the class of railway accommodation, so far as the above class of officers were concerned.

(4) Single II class railway fare and Rs. 2—8—0 daily allowance.

(5) The amount calculated at the rates given in answer to sub-division (4).

APPENDIX II.

(Vide answer to Question No. 62.)

Name of the Head of the Department	No. of days spent outside the Head-quarters	No. of days spent outside the State
Commissioner of Police	172	3
Excise Commissioner	223	1
Chief Judge	12	...
Comptroller of Accounts	63	...
Tramway Engineer	16	...
Government Advocate		...
Superintendent of Anchal	103	...
Chief Medical Officer	162	...
Legislative Council Secretary	..	...
Census Superintendent	82	1
Secretary to the Diwan	..	N. B.
Inspector-General of Prisons	...	...
Diwan Peishkar	232	6
Registrar of Co-operative Societies	56	...
Registrar of Village Panchayats	272	...
Superintendent of Registration	201	4
District Magistrate	83	2
Trichur District Judge	15	...
Anjikainal District Judge	4	...
Conservator of Forests	229	...
Protector of the Depressed Classes	273	22
Chief Engineer	134	16
Honorary Superintendent, State Museum	5 3	12
Superintendent of Agriculture	3	

N. B.—Secretary to the Diwan was in England on deputation from 23rd September 1931 to 3rd January 1932 both days inclusive.

APPENDIX III.

(Vide Answer to question No. 64.)

Petition, dated 2nd February 1931, from Diwan Bahadur
Dr. V. Verghese.

I have the honour to request that the Diwan may be kindly pleased to give me a capitalised amount in lieu of the monthly pension stipulated in the terms of my agreement. I had originally made this request on entering service and was made to understand that it would be favourably considered when I leave. I shall be extremely thankful if the Diwan will kindly view my request with sympathy as I am advancing in years.

In case the Diwan is pleased to grant my request, I beg leave to ask that my privilege leave allowance may also be given in a lump sum as, I believe, in my case, privilege leave means only the granting of privilege allowance for 3 months and 12 days including the leave accumulated during the one month's extension already given.